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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/838,205	04/20/2001	Srikanth Natarajan	10007592/021	9389

7590 09/20/2005

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EXAMINER

HOSSAIN, TANIM M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2145	

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/838,205	NATARAJAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tanim Hossain	2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2005.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-3, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lecheler et al (U.S. 6,425,008).

As per claim 1, Lecheler teaches a method for identifying the source of an event in a computer network, comprising the steps of: associating an identifier tag with an event occurring within the computer network, wherein the identifier tag uniquely identifies at least one collection computer monitoring the event based on a domain name (column 2, lines 47-54; column 4, lines 30-40); receiving, in at least one management computer, information from the at least one collection computer that includes the identifier tag (column 6, line 66 – column 7, line 5); deriving, by the at least one management computer, an identification of the at least one collection computer from the identifier tag based on the domain name (column 4, lines 47-57; column 4, line 66 – column 5, line 5; column 6, line 66 – column 7, line 5); and identifying to a user the source of the event using the identification of each collection computer (column 5, lines 7-9, 63-66; column 6, line 66 – column 7, line 5).

As per claim 2, Lecheler teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the identifier tag is a name of the at least one collection computer (column 4, lines 49-52).

As per claim 3, Lecheler teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the step of deriving comprises the step of: maintaining within the at least one management computer a database of identification information associated with identifier tags (figure 3; column 5, line 66 – column 6, line 4).

As per claim 6, Lecheler teaches the method of claim 1, comprising the steps of: managing, by the collection computer, at least one network object (figure 1; column 3, lines 57-60; column 4, lines 19-21); and resolving, by the collection computer, a network address of each network object into a resolved network address included in the information received at the at least one management computer (column 4, lines 47-49; column 5, lines 5-8).

As per claim 7, Lecheler teaches a system for identifying the source of an event in a computer network, comprising: a plurality of collection computers, wherein an identifier tag uniquely identifies each collection computer based on a domain name, and wherein the identifier tag is associated with an event occurring within the computer network (figure 1; column 2, lines 52-54; column 4, lines 28-34); at least one management computer for receiving information from the plurality of collection computers that includes the identifier tag, wherein each management computer derives an identification of each collection computer from the identifier tag based on the domain name (figures 1, 4a, and 4b; column 4, lines 47-57; column 4, line 66 – column 5, line 5); and means for identifying to a user the source of the event using the identification of each collection computer (column 5, lines 7-9, 63-66).

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lecheler.

As per claim 4, Lecheler teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the step of identifying comprises the step of: displaying to the user the identification of the at least one collection computer (column 4, lines 32-34). Lecheler does discuss the display of a network address of a network element that generated an event, but chooses not use it in the invention. Instead, Lecheler teaches the display of a resolved network address of a network element that generated an event, as it would be more convenient to convert these network addresses into unique domain identifiers for efficient identification (column 6, lines 13-25). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to include displaying the network address of a network element that generated an event, as it is a different option of displaying the required information.

As per claim 5, Lecheler teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the step of identifying comprises the step of: mapping each collection computer to a group of collection computers using the identifier tag (column 5, line 66 – column 6, line 1). Lecheler does discuss the identification to the user the source of the event using the group of collection computers (column 6, lines 5-12). Using the network address of a network element that generated the event, to identify the source of the event to the user, would have been obvious by the same argument as claim 4.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed June 7, 2005 have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

a. Applicant asserts that the derivation by the management computer of an identification of at least one collection computer based on a domain name is not taught. Examiner respectfully disagrees. In Lecheler's column 2, lines 46-56, the level one manager, or collection computer, generates a unique error message based on a domain name and sends it to a level two manager. This level two manager is coupled to an operator console, which then receives an error message, on which there is a domain name, and an identification of the level one manager. Based on this error message, "the operator utilizes the level one manager identifier and level two manager identifier in order to locate the appropriate level one manager (column 6, lines 64-66)." As the error message is made based on a domain name, this act constitutes the deriving of an identification by a management computer, of the collection computers from the identifier tag. The operator then identifies the source of the event using the collection computer's identification.

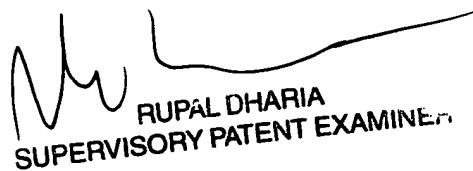
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tanim Hossain whose telephone number is 571/272-3881. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571/272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tanim Hossain
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2145



RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER